

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on Page 5, Line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to Figure 1, a block diagram depicts an information handling system 10 having an optical drive 12 that reads identification information from an optical medium 14 with a pick-up read head 16 and associated laser 18. Optical drive 12 applies identification information determined by an identification module 20 prior to reading or writing user data to determine a write strategy for writing information to optical medium 14 that is received through interface 22 from processing components of information handling system 10, such as CPU 24, BIOS 26 and hard disc drive 28. Optical medium 14 embeds a first set of information into the data layer of optical medium 14 and a separate and distinct aligned second set of information on the protective surface layer of optical medium 14 as disclosed in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/722,268, entitled "Optical Medium Aligned Information System and Method," incorporated herein by reference. The first set of embedded disc information (EDI) 38 is stored in the data layer 40 of optical medium 14 in eight repeated portions. The second set of serial surface code (SSC) information 44 may exist on the outside surface of protective layer 42 aligned with the first set of EDI information but disposed so that EDI information remains readable. In this manner, when optical medium 14 is first inserted into optical drive 12, pick-up read head 16 proceeds to a predetermined location and reads both the EDI and, if present, the SSC sets of information.